(b) whether gold was given to jewellery exporters under Gold on Loan scheme launched by MMTC;

(c) if so, the details of exporters and quantity of gold given to them during the above period, location-wise;

(d) whether the payment has been made to MMTC by the exporters after exporting jewellery in accordance with the rules prescribed by MMTC; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The total quantity of gold imported by MMTC during the last three years under Special Import Licence is as follows:—

Year	Gold in Kgs.
1993-94	0
1994-95	3000
1995-96	7000

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. About 400 exporters of gold jewellery have been given gold under loan schemes operated by MMTC. Total quantity of gold loaned by MMTC during the last 3 years state-wise is given below:—

(Qty. in Kgs.)

States	93-94	94-95	95-96	Total
Delhi	5571	5125	3993	14689
Uttar Pradesh	1253	1107	1518	3878
Maharashtra	2760	3749	3564	10073
Karnataka	676	1581	2376	4633
Andhra Pradesh	0	82	166	248
West Bengal	619	474	1225	2318
Rajasthan	0	0	74	74
Gujarat	63	311	200	574
TOTAL:	10942	12429	13116	36487

(d) and (e) Of the total quantity of 36,487 kgs. of gold issued on loan by MMTC to exporters, MMTC has not received payment for a quantity of 352 kgs. This works out to be less than 1% of the total amount of gold issued on loan by MMTC to jewellery exporters during the last three years. Reasons for non-payment broadly are the following:—

(1) Requests by some exporters for extension of time for effecting exports.

(2) Unauthorised removal of gold from the Customs bonded premises.

(3) Non-realisation of export proceeds.

Maharashtra Government's views on foodgrains policy of the Central Government

931. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra State Government has complained against the foodgrains policy of the Central Government;

(b) whether Food Corporation of India has turned down various requests of the State Government for the release of free sale wheat for the months of October and November, 1996; and

(c) whether Government would take immediate steps to release wheat to Maharashtra at the earliest keeping in view the fact that Maharashtra is non-wheat producing State and its-non-supply puts strain on the price situation?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) A communication has been received from the Government of Maharashtra regarding open market sale scheme of foodgrains.

(b) and (c) FCI has allotted a quantity of 35,000 tonnes of wheat for October, 96 and 40,000 tonnes of wheat for November, 96 for sale in Maharashtra under open market sale scheme. During the month of October, 96 out of 35,000 tonnes of wheat allotted 30,460 tonnes stand lifted by the buyers (from Maharashtra local depots—14,460 tonnes and from Gujarat—15,800) and the lifting of the balance quantity is in progress from Gujarat Region.

Against an allocation of 40,000 tonnes of wheat for November, 96 for issue from the local depots of Maharashtra only 32,030 tonnes (provisional) has been lifted by the buyers of Maharashtra and lifting of the balance quantity is in progress.

All possible steps have been taken to regulate the issue of wheat under open sale to increase the availability of wheat in the open market.

Fall in the Capacity utilisation of Steel Plants in the Public Sector

932. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steep fall in the capacity utilisation of the Steel Plants in the public sector like Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by how much amount the Rourkela Steel Plant is lagging behind its capacity utilisation;

(c) whether the public sector steel plants are running into losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof plant-wise; and

(e) steps proposed to be taken to improve the capacity utilisation and to remove the causes that are responsible for incurring of the losses?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) There has not been a steep fall in the aggregate capacity utilisation of SAIL, which includes the four Integrated Steel Plants (ISPs), and of IISCO, a subsidiary of SAIL, and also of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) during the last three years. However, the integrated steel plant-wise saleable steel capacity utilisation at SAIL, IISCO and RINL is as follows:—

(Unit: %)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
DSP	68	85	76
RSP	97	103	95
BSP	106	108	111
BSL	102	100	106
SAIL (4ISPs)	99	102	102
IISCO	82	82	75
RINL	45	59	80

IISCO is operating with a derated capacity. The Annual Plan has, therefore, been treated as the capacity.

Major reasons for not achieving 100% capacity utilisation at Rourkela Steel Plant during 1995-96 include operational problems at Blast Furnaces which are not fully modernised as yet, facilities set-up under modernisation are under stabilisation, etc. Similarly, the main reason for lower capacity utilisation in Durgapur Steel Plant has been the progressive stabilisation of modernisation facilities, etc.

(c) and (d) Profit & Loss for SAIL are declared for SAIL as a Company consisting of its various plants and central units. Plantwise details of Profit & Loss in ISPs of SAIL, IISCO and RINL for the last three years is as follows:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Years	BSP	DSP	RSP	BSL	SAIL as a Company (Before Tax)	IISCO	RINL
1993-94	368	-213	3	468	545	-76	-573
1994-95	639	-94	19	662	1163	-6	-364
1995-96	819	-174	-57	806	1319	-49	-204

(-) Indicates Loss.